

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis Mark Ridley-Thomas Sheila Kuehl Janice Hahn Kathryn Barger

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS



Joseph M. Nicchitta Director

> Joel Ayala Chief Deputy

Rafael Carbajal Chief Deputy

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

## Hearing Officer/Department of Consumer & Business Affairs

Hearing Date 03/21/2019 Agenda Item No.

### **Transmittal Checklist**

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_

**Dana Pratt** 

Petitioner Name: Case Number: Case(s): DCBA Staff:		Shalene Dyer RSQ19-00493 IRSO Petition for Noncompliance Shannon Louis		
$\boxtimes$	Petition Summ	ary		
$\boxtimes$	Parcel Profile Report (separate attachment)			
$\boxtimes$	Staff Report			
$\boxtimes$	Draft Findings			
$\boxtimes$	Burden of Proof Statement(s)			
	Correspondence			
	Notice of Increase			
-				



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** 

Hilda L. Solis Mark Ridley-Thomas Sheila Kuehl Janice Hahn Kathryn Barger

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"



Joseph M. Nicchitta Director

> Joel Ayala Chief Deputy

Rafael Carbajal Chief Deputy

Case Number RSQ19-00493

**Hearing Date** 3/21/2019

### **PETITION SUMMARY**

**PETITIONER NAME** 

Shalene Dyer

**PETITION DATE** 

January 25, 2019

Shannon Louis 213-974-4118 SLouis@dcba.lacounty.gov

#### **PETITION OVERVIEW**

Petitioner has completed a Petition for Noncompliance, requesting a reduction in rent in accordance with the Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance, Ordinance Number 2018-0045. The petitioners' rent increase became effective on February 1, 2019.

#### **PROPERTY ADDRESS**

CTAFF DECOMMENDATION

1743 1/2 West 105th Street Los Angeles, California 90047

#### **KEY ISSUES**

DCBA STAFF:

- Rent was increased from \$1,500.00 from \$1,900.00
- Total increase is in the amount of 26.67%
- 60-day notice was provided on November 14, 2018
- Per effective date of the rent increase, both the February and March 2019 rent payments will be due by the hearing date

STAFF RECOMMENDATION	
Approval	



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Joseph M. Nicchitta Director

> Joel Ayala Chief Deputy

Rafael Carbajal Chief Deputy

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** 

Hilda L. Solis Mark Ridley-Thomas Sheila Kuehl Janice Hahn Kathryn Barger

March 12, 2019

TO: Gina Natali, AICP

Hearing Officer

FROM: Shannon Louis

Case No. RSQ19-00493
Shalene Dyer vs. Cedric Greene
Hearing Officer Meeting: March 21, 2019 – Agenda Item: 2

#### **Petition Description**

Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance(IRSO) Petition for Noncompliance

Tenant is disputing a rental increase issued for the covered rental unit located at 1743 1/2 West 105th Street Los Angeles, California 90047 in the unincorporated area of West Athens in Los Angeles County.

The Petitioner reported receiving a 60-day Notice of Increase on November 14, 2018 raising the rent to \$1,900.00, effective February 1, 2019. The petitioner's base rent on September 11, 2018 was \$1,500.00 – which constitutes a \$400.00 rent increase. The petition was filed with the Department of Consumer & Business Affairs (DCBA) on January 14, 2019. The petitioner states that she received a rent increase on September 3, 2018 raising her rent to \$1,500.00 and reports receiving the November 2018 Notice of Increase as a result of retaliation, as she states that she was injured on the property.

#### **Use Type**

Multi-Family Residential; 0300

Year Built/Certificate of Occupancy(COO) 1948

### **Previous Petitions/History**

N/A

#### Staff Evaluation & Burden of Proof

According to Ordinance No. 2018-0045, DCBA has determined that the property 1743 1/2 West 105th Street Los Angeles, California 90047 is covered under the Los Angeles County Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance and is subject to its conditions.

The IRSO covers residential dwellings on properties with two or more units in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County with initial certificates of occupancy or equivalent issued on or before February 1, 1995. **Ordinance No. 2018-0045 Section 1(A) and Section 1(B).** 

The IRSO limits rent increases to 3% once per 12-month period and applies to any rent increase taking effect on or after September 11, 2018. **Ordinance No. 2018-0045 Section 3(A).** 

The proposed increase in the amount of \$400.00 raises the petitioner's rent from \$1,500.00 to \$1,900.00 and by 26.67%. According to the ordinance, the tenant's maximum allowable rent would be \$1,545.00. If approved the landlord needs to credit the tenant for any overpayments above 3% that have occurred since the rent increase took effect – which would total \$710.00 for the months of February and March 2019. **Ordinance No. 2018-0045 Section 3(A)(1).** 

**Lump Sum Credit Option** 

Lump Sum Great Option				
April 1, 2019	\$710.00			
Six Month	Credit Option			
April 1, 2019	\$118.34			
May 1, 2019	\$118.34			
June 1, 2019	\$118.34			
July 1, 2019	\$118.34			
August 1, 2019	\$118.34			
September 1, 2019	\$118.30			

#### **Proof of Service/Notice of Hearing**

The Petitioner, Shalene Dyer, returned the Proof of Service form to DCBA on January 25, 2019. The DCBA sent the Notice of Hearing on March 7, 2019.

#### **Public Comments**

N/A

#### Fees/Deposits

N/A

#### **Landlord Contact**

On March 14, 2019, DCBA contacted the landlord respondent to determine if the Notice of Hearing was received and to counsel the landlord on his rights under Ordinance No. 2018-0045. The landlord stated that he was not aware of the ordinance and was provided options to rescind the rent increase. Landlord declined to rescind the rent increase and will be attending the hearing on March 21, 2019 with his lawyer.

#### Staff Recommendation

The following recommendation is made prior to the public hearing and is subject to

Staff Report RSQ19-00493

change based upon testimony and/or documentary evidence presented at the public hearing:

Staff recommends APPROVAL of the Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance Petition for Noncompliance – Case Number RSQ19-00493.

#### SUGGESTED STATEMENT

I, THE HEARING OFFICER, CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND FIND THAT THE INTERIM RENT STABILIZATION ORDINANCE PETITION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE – CASE NUMBER RSQ19-00493 IS **APPROVED**, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS.

#### **Suggested Approval Statement**

Prepared by Shannon Louis Reviewed by Dana Pratt

#### **Attachments**

Notice of Increase

Initials JMN:DP: sl (3/11/19)



#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis Mark Ridley-Thomas Sheila Kuehl Janice Hahn Kathryn Barger

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Joseph M. Nicchitta Director

> Joel Ayala Chief Deputy

Rafael Carbajal Chief Deputy

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

#### March 12, 2019

Re: 1743 1/2 West 105th Street Los Angeles, California 90047

#### Case No. RSQ19-00493 Shalene Dyer vs. Cedric Greene

Hearing Officer, Gina Natoli, by her action of March 21, 2019 has approved the Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance(IRSO) Petition for Noncompliance hearing for the above referenced project. Enclosed are the Hearing Officer's Findings and Conditions. Please carefully review the included information. This decision is effective until February 1, 2020.

For questions or for additional information, please contact Shannon Louis of the Rent Stabilization Program at 213-974-4118, or by email at slouis@dcba.lacounty.gov. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sincerely, DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS Shannon Louis

Dana Pratt, Chief Rent Stabilization Program

Enclosures: Draft Findings, Conditions of Approval

JMN:DP: sl

## DRAFT FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS OF THE HEARING OFFICER AND ORDER COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NUMBER RSQ19-00493

- The Los Angeles County ("County") Hearing Officer conducted a duly-noticed public hearing in the matter of Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance Petition for Noncompliance, Case Number RSQ19-00493 on March 21, 2019.
- 2. The petitioner(s), Shalene Dyer, received a proposed or actual residential rent increase above three percent (3%) for the covered rental unit(s) located at 1743 1/2 West 105th Street Los Angeles, California 90047 in the amount of \$400.00 or 26.67%. The \$400.00 proposed or actual rent increase raises the petitioner's rent from \$1,500.00 to \$1,900.00. According to Ordinance 2018-0045, the tenant's current maximum allowable rent is \$1,545.00. If Case Number RSQ19-00493 is approved, the landlord, Cedric Greene must credit petitioner, Shalene Dyer, for any overpayments above 3% that have occurred since the rent increase took effect which would be a total of \$710.00 for the overpayments from the months of February and March 2019. Ordinance No. 2018-0045 Section 3(A)(1).

The landlord respondent must elect a return option and provide this information to the Hearing Officer within ten (10) days of receiving the Hearing Officer's decision.

**Lump Sum Credit Option** 

April 1, 2019	\$710.00
Six Month Cred	lit Option
April 1, 2019	\$118.34
May 1, 2019	\$118.34
June 1, 2019	\$118.34
July 1, 2019	\$118.34
August 1, 2019	\$118.34
September 1, 2019	\$118.30

- 3. The property is located in the unincorporated area of West Athens in Los Angeles County, is a residential dwelling on property with two or more units, and was built in 1948.
- 4. Ordinance 2018-0045 was adopted on November 20, 2018, which established rent levels as they existed on September 11, 2018 and limited rental increases to no more than three percent (3%) within a twelve month period.
- 5. No comments have been received from the public at this time.
- 6. The petitioner, Shalene Dyer, visited the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs(DCBA) on January 14, 2019 to determine if the property qualified for the newly approved IRSO and filed an Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance Petition for Noncompliance. The petitioner states that she received a rent increase in the amount of \$400.00, increasing the base rent from \$1,500.00 to \$1,900.00, effective February 1, 2019. The petitioner has provided a copy of a Change in

Terms of Tenancy increasing rent to \$1,900.00.

- 7. The Hearing Officer finds that:
  - a. RSQ19-00493 Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance Petition for Noncompliance is approved subject to the following conditions:
    - i. The landlord, Cedric Greene, shall return the overpayment of \$710.00 to the tenant based on the lump sum or 6-month return option as reported to the hearing officer.
    - ii. Rent shall not exceed \$1,545.00 and cannot be increased until February 1, 2020. The landlord may then increase the rent an additional 3% (or whatever allowable cap is established) without the approval of DCBA, per Ordinance 2018-0045 and in accordance with California Civil Code Section 827. If the landlord desires to raise the rent above the allowable 3% limit, the landlord may file a Petition for Relief from Moratorium with DCBA. Rent increases above 3% for the affected unit(s) shall not occur until a decision is issued by the Hearing Officer.

#### BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE HEARING OFFICER CONCLUDES THAT:

A. The petitioner's proposed or actual residential rent increase is in excess of the allowable 3% per the Los Angeles County Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance 2018-0045.

#### THEREFORE, THE HEARING OFFICER:

- 1. Approves RSQ19-00493 Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance Petition for Noncompliance subject to the above conditions.
- 2. If monthly rent is due before the hearing officer decision is received by the petitioner and respondent, the tenant is responsible for the base rent as of September 11, 2018 plus 3% as allowed by Ordinance 2018-0045, which is no more than \$1,545.00.

**ACTION DATE: 3/21/2019** 

JMN: DP: sl

3/13/2019

### **BURDEN OF PROOF STATEMENT**

DCBA Case #: RSQ19-00483
Section IV: Reason for Petition (explain in detail why you are requesting a hearing)  Landlord increased my cent. on September 3,2018 +8,500.4 he is  Now raising my rest 4400.00 more for February 2019. Due to an  Injury I acquired on the premoes that was due to his regigence on December 4, 2018, He chose not to give me his Rental Insurance information which forced the to got a afterney + new he is trying to  Namesso me by deliberately raising my rest without probable caused.
IS THIS MATTER URGÉNT?  ✓ Yes □ No
REASON FOR URGENCY (must attach relevant documents in order to be considered):  Trying to resolve before the new rest incresse is effective
Section V: Signature of Petitioner
Petitioner Name (Print)
Petitioner Title (Tenant, Landlord, Mobilehome Homeowner or Park Owner)  3/0 - 594 - 14/2  Petitioner Telephone Number
Shaller graya 1-14-19

### Change of Terms of Tenancy

This shall constitute formal notice that your monthly rent shall increase to the sum of

\$ 1,900, effective February 1,2019

This notice is in accordance with Civil Code Section 827.

Date 11/14/2018

Landlord/Agent Crack Careene

(Landlord's- If you are increasing the rent in excess of 10%, 60 days advance notice is necessary.)

This form created by the Law Firm of Dennis P. Block & Associates Los Angeles 323 938-2868 Encino 818 986-3147 Inglewood 310 673-2996 Orange 714 644-8232 Ventura 805 653-7264 Pasadena 626 798-1014 San Bernardino 909 877-6565